

REMARKS

The Applicant has amended the specification and claims as requested by the Examiner. Submitted herewith for approval by the Examiner is Applicant's Second Letter to the Official Draftsman, and upon receipt of the Examiner's approval of the proposal, the appropriate formal patent drawings will be prepared by Applicant's bonded patent draftsman.

In response to the Examiner's requirement for election, application elects the invention of Figs. 1-6A. New claims 14 - 25 are either generic or specific to the elected invention.

Allowance of the amended claims is courteously solicited for the following reasons:

According to Applicant's invention defined in new claim 14, which is based on original claims 1 and 4, the bottom wall 4 is formed of wood and therefore is impervious. The wooden bottom wall cooperates with the side and end walls of the frame as well as the vertically-oriented horizontal support slats 3 to define a plurality of insulating air pockets or chambers 5. When a mattress M is arranged on the cross slats, the insulating air pockets protect the sleeper from being subjected to severe temperature change. This important contribution to the bed frame art is in no manner anticipated or rendered obvious by the cited prior art.

In the Rupe patent No. 5,701,653, there is attached to the bottom of the bed frame "ticking material 12 or the like. The ticking material is a breathable fabric used as a dust and insect barrier while allowing moisture to escape." (Column 2, lines 55-58). Thus, as distinguished from Applicant's use of an impervious wooden bottom panel for partially defining a plurality of air insulating chambers, the Rupe box spring frame with the breathable fabric layer 12 cannot afford the insulating effect to the sleeper provided by the present invention.

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In Diamondstein No. 4,535,494, the slat type mattress foundation in which some of the slats at the center one-third portion of the foundation are wider for enhanced strength. As distinguished from Applicant's invention, there is no teaching by Diamondstein of Applicant's provision of support slats and frame side and end walls that cooperate with a planar wooden bottom wall to define a plurality of air insulating chambers.

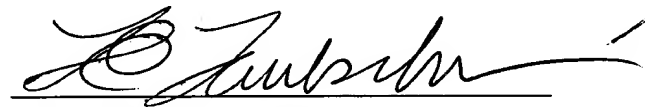
Similarly, in the mattress frames of the Liu, Cooper, and Dupont patents, no air insulating pockets are formed in the bed frame above air impervious wooden bottom layer that extends below the frame.

Attached hereto is a mark-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

Favorable action is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Cancel the paragraph of Page 4, lines 19-21, and substitute the following therefor:

Figs. 6A and 6B are diagrammatic exploded illustrations illustrating different types of bed frames and the mattresses supported thereby, and Figs. 6C and 6D illustrate two different types of cross slats for use in the lattices of bed frames;

Cancel claim 2, and rewrite as follows:

- [2.] 14. A bed frame for supporting a mattress, comprising:
- (a) a rigid horizontal rectangular frame (1) including opposed pairs of parallel spaced vertically oriented longitudinal side (1a) and transverse end (1b) walls, respectively;
 - (b) a planar wooden bottom wall (4) connected with the bottom of said frame to define an open-topped enclosed space;
 - (c) lattice means (2) [dividing] cooperating with said wooden bottom wall to define in said enclosed space [into] a plurality of insulating air chambers (5), said lattice means including:
 - (1) a plurality of parallel spaced horizontally-arranged vertically oriented support slats (3) arranged in said enclosed space normal to and extending between a first parallel pair of said frame walls; and
 - (2) a plurality of parallel spaced horizontally arranged horizontally oriented cross slats (9) extending transversely above said support slats in a direction normal to said second pair of frame walls, the intermediate portions of said cross slats being supported by said support slats; and
 - (d) slat end support means on said second pair of frame walls supporting the adjacent ends of said cross slats, respectively.

Cancel claim 3, and rewrite as follows:

- [3.] 15. A bed frame as defined in claim [2.] 14, wherein said frame, [said bottom wall,] said support slats, and said cross slats are each formed of wood.

C

Cancel claim 4-13, and substitute the following claims therefor:

- [4.] 16. A bed frame as defined in claim [2,] 14, wherein said support slats (3) extend parallel with said side walls, and said cross slats extend parallel with said end walls.
- [5.] 17. A bed frame as defined in claim [2,] 14, wherein said support slats (3') extend parallel with said end walls, and said cross slats (9') extend parallel with said side walls.
- [6.] 18. A bed frame as defined in claim [2,] 14, wherein said cross slats are supported in downwardly spaced relation relative to the upper edge of said frame.
- [7.] 19. A bed frame as defined in claim [2,] 14, wherein said cross slats are supported adjacent the upper edge of said frame.
- [8.] 20. A bed frame as defined in claim [2,] 14, wherein said slat end support means comprise a plurality of spaced slots (S) contained in said second frame walls, said slots receiving the associated ends of said cross slats, respectively.
- [9.] 21. A bed frame as defined in claim [2,] 14, wherein said slat end support means includes a plurality of side projections (P) that extend inwardly from the adjacent faces of said second pair of frame walls, respectively.
- [10.] 22. A bed frame as defined in claim [9,] 21, and further including a pair of end bars (B) extending transversely across, and connected below, the respective ends of said cross slats, respectively, said end bars being supported by the corresponding ones of said side projections, respectively.
- [11.] 23. A bed frame as defined in claim [2,] 14, wherein at least some of said cross slats (7, 9) have different thicknesses, thereby to support different portions of the mattress at different heights relative to said frame.
- [12.] 24. A bed frame as defined in claim [3,] 15, and further including a wooden headboard (H), and metal bracket means (8) connecting said frame end wall with said headboard.
- [13.] 25. A bed frame as defined in claim [2,] 14, and further including four externally rounded corner pieces (6) arranged at the corners of said frame

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between the associated side and end walls, respectively, and mortise and tenon joint means (T) connecting said side and end walls with said corner piece, respectively.